

B1 (Official Form 1)(4/10)

United States Bankruptcy Court District of New Jersey				Voluntary Petition																					
Name of Debtor (if individual, enter Last, First, Middle): The Encore Group, Inc.			Name of Joint Debtor (Spouse) (Last, First, Middle):																						
All Other Names used by the Debtor in the last 8 years (include married, maiden, and trade names):			All Other Names used by the Joint Debtor in the last 8 years (include married, maiden, and trade names):																						
Last four digits of Soc. Sec. or Individual-Taxpayer I.D. (ITIN) No./Complete EIN (if more than one, state all) 33-0399385			Last four digits of Soc. Sec. or Individual-Taxpayer I.D. (ITIN) No./Complete EIN (if more than one, state all)																						
Street Address of Debtor (No. and Street, City, and State): 1800 Valley Road Wayne, NJ <div style="text-align: right;">ZIP Code 07470</div>			Street Address of Joint Debtor (No. and Street, City, and State): <div style="text-align: right;">ZIP Code</div>																						
County of Residence or of the Principal Place of Business: Passaic			County of Residence or of the Principal Place of Business:																						
Mailing Address of Debtor (if different from street address): <div style="text-align: right;">ZIP Code</div>			Mailing Address of Joint Debtor (if different from street address): <div style="text-align: right;">ZIP Code</div>																						
Location of Principal Assets of Business Debtor (if different from street address above):																									
Type of Debtor (Form of Organization) (Check one box) <input type="checkbox"/> Individual (includes Joint Debtors) <i>See Exhibit D on page 2 of this form.</i> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Corporation (includes LLC and LLP) <input type="checkbox"/> Partnership <input type="checkbox"/> Other (If debtor is not one of the above entities, check this box and state type of entity below.)		Nature of Business (Check one box) <input type="checkbox"/> Health Care Business <input type="checkbox"/> Single Asset Real Estate as defined in 11 U.S.C. § 101 (51B) <input type="checkbox"/> Railroad <input type="checkbox"/> Stockbroker <input type="checkbox"/> Commodity Broker <input type="checkbox"/> Clearing Bank <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other <hr/> Tax-Exempt Entity (Check box, if applicable) <input type="checkbox"/> Debtor is a tax-exempt organization under Title 26 of the United States Code (the Internal Revenue Code).		Chapter of Bankruptcy Code Under Which the Petition is Filed (Check one box) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Chapter 7 <input type="checkbox"/> Chapter 9 <input type="checkbox"/> Chapter 11 <input type="checkbox"/> Chapter 12 <input type="checkbox"/> Chapter 13 <input type="checkbox"/> Chapter 15 Petition for Recognition of a Foreign Main Proceeding <input type="checkbox"/> Chapter 15 Petition for Recognition of a Foreign Nonmain Proceeding <hr/> Nature of Debts (Check one box) <input type="checkbox"/> Debts are primarily consumer debts, defined in 11 U.S.C. § 101(8) as "incurred by an individual primarily for a personal, family, or household purpose." <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Debts are primarily business debts.																					
Filing Fee (Check one box) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Full Filing Fee attached <input type="checkbox"/> Filing Fee to be paid in installments (applicable to individuals only). Must attach signed application for the court's consideration certifying that the debtor is unable to pay fee except in installments. Rule 1006(b). See Official Form 3A. <input type="checkbox"/> Filing Fee waiver requested (applicable to chapter 7 individuals only). Must attach signed application for the court's consideration. See Official Form 3B.			Chapter 11 Debtors Check one box: <input type="checkbox"/> Debtor is a small business debtor as defined in 11 U.S.C. § 101(51D). <input type="checkbox"/> Debtor is not a small business debtor as defined in 11 U.S.C. § 101(51D). Check if: <input type="checkbox"/> Debtor's aggregate noncontingent liquidated debts (excluding debts owed to insiders or affiliates) are less than \$2,343,300 (<i>amount subject to adjustment on 4/01/13 and every three years thereafter</i>). Check all applicable boxes: <input type="checkbox"/> A plan is being filed with this petition. <input type="checkbox"/> Acceptances of the plan were solicited prepetition from one or more classes of creditors, in accordance with 11 U.S.C. § 1126(b).																						
Statistical/Administrative Information <input type="checkbox"/> Debtor estimates that funds will be available for distribution to unsecured creditors. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Debtor estimates that, after any exempt property is excluded and administrative expenses paid, there will be no funds available for distribution to unsecured creditors.				THIS SPACE IS FOR COURT USE ONLY																					
Estimated Number of Creditors <table style="width: 100%; text-align: center;"> <tr> <td><input checked="" type="checkbox"/></td> <td><input type="checkbox"/></td> <td><input type="checkbox"/></td> <td><input type="checkbox"/></td> <td><input type="checkbox"/></td> <td><input type="checkbox"/></td> <td><input type="checkbox"/></td> <td><input type="checkbox"/></td> <td><input type="checkbox"/></td> <td><input type="checkbox"/></td> </tr> <tr> <td>1-49</td> <td>50-99</td> <td>100-199</td> <td>200-999</td> <td>1,000-5,000</td> <td>5,001-10,000</td> <td>10,001-25,000</td> <td>25,001-50,000</td> <td>50,001-100,000</td> <td>OVER 100,000</td> </tr> </table>						<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	1-49	50-99	100-199	200-999	1,000-5,000	5,001-10,000	10,001-25,000	25,001-50,000	50,001-100,000	OVER 100,000
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>			<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>														
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Estimated Assets <table style="width: 100%; text-align: center;"> <tr> <td><input type="checkbox"/></td> <td><input type="checkbox"/></td> <td><input checked="" type="checkbox"/></td> <td><input type="checkbox"/></td> <td><input type="checkbox"/></td> <td><input type="checkbox"/></td> <td><input type="checkbox"/></td> <td><input type="checkbox"/></td> <td><input type="checkbox"/></td> <td><input type="checkbox"/></td> </tr> <tr> <td>\$0 to \$50,000</td> <td>\$50,001 to \$100,000</td> <td>\$100,001 to \$500,000</td> <td>\$500,001 to \$1 million</td> <td>\$1,000,001 to \$10 million</td> <td>\$10,000,001 to \$50 million</td> <td>\$50,000,001 to \$100 million</td> <td>\$100,000,001 to \$500 million</td> <td>\$500,000,001 to \$1 billion</td> <td>More than \$1 billion</td> </tr> </table>				<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	\$0 to \$50,000	\$50,001 to \$100,000	\$100,001 to \$500,000	\$500,001 to \$1 million	\$1,000,001 to \$10 million	\$10,000,001 to \$50 million	\$50,000,001 to \$100 million	\$100,000,001 to \$500 million	\$500,000,001 to \$1 billion	More than \$1 billion		
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>																
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Voluntary Petition <i>(This page must be completed and filed in every case)</i>		Name of Debtor(s): The Encore Group, Inc.	
All Prior Bankruptcy Cases Filed Within Last 8 Years (If more than two, attach additional sheet)			
Location Where Filed: - None -	Case Number:	Date Filed:	
Location Where Filed:	Case Number:	Date Filed:	
Pending Bankruptcy Case Filed by any Spouse, Partner, or Affiliate of this Debtor (If more than one, attach additional sheet)			
Name of Debtor: - None -	Case Number:	Date Filed:	
District:	Relationship:	Judge:	
Exhibit A (To be completed if debtor is required to file periodic reports (e.g., forms 10K and 10Q) with the Securities and Exchange Commission pursuant to Section 13 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 and is requesting relief under chapter 11.) <input type="checkbox"/> Exhibit A is attached and made a part of this petition.		Exhibit B (To be completed if debtor is an individual whose debts are primarily consumer debts.) I, the attorney for the petitioner named in the foregoing petition, declare that I have informed the petitioner that [he or she] may proceed under chapter 7, 11, 12, or 13 of title 11, United States Code, and have explained the relief available under each such chapter. I further certify that I delivered to the debtor the notice required by 11 U.S.C. §342(b). <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between;"> X _____ _____ </div> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between;"> Signature of Attorney for Debtor(s) (Date) </div>	
Exhibit C			
Does the debtor own or have possession of any property that poses or is alleged to pose a threat of imminent and identifiable harm to public health or safety? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes, and Exhibit C is attached and made a part of this petition. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No.			
Exhibit D			
(To be completed by every individual debtor. If a joint petition is filed, each spouse must complete and attach a separate Exhibit D.) <input type="checkbox"/> Exhibit D completed and signed by the debtor is attached and made a part of this petition. If this is a joint petition: <input type="checkbox"/> Exhibit D also completed and signed by the joint debtor is attached and made a part of this petition.			
Information Regarding the Debtor - Venue (Check any applicable box)			
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Debtor has been domiciled or has had a residence, principal place of business, or principal assets in this District for 180 days immediately preceding the date of this petition or for a longer part of such 180 days than in any other District. <input type="checkbox"/> There is a bankruptcy case concerning debtor's affiliate, general partner, or partnership pending in this District. <input type="checkbox"/> Debtor is a debtor in a foreign proceeding and has its principal place of business or principal assets in the United States in this District, or has no principal place of business or assets in the United States but is a defendant in an action or proceeding [in a federal or state court] in this District, or the interests of the parties will be served in regard to the relief sought in this District.			
Certification by a Debtor Who Resides as a Tenant of Residential Property (Check all applicable boxes)			
<input type="checkbox"/> Landlord has a judgment against the debtor for possession of debtor's residence. (If box checked, complete the following.) <div style="margin-left: 40px;"> _____ (Name of landlord that obtained judgment) </div> <div style="margin-left: 40px;"> _____ (Address of landlord) </div>			
<input type="checkbox"/> Debtor claims that under applicable nonbankruptcy law, there are circumstances under which the debtor would be permitted to cure the entire monetary default that gave rise to the judgment for possession, after the judgment for possession was entered, and <input type="checkbox"/> Debtor has included in this petition the deposit with the court of any rent that would become due during the 30-day period after the filing of the petition. <input type="checkbox"/> Debtor certifies that he/she has served the Landlord with this certification. (11 U.S.C. § 362(l)).			

Voluntary Petition

(This page must be completed and filed in every case)

Name of Debtor(s):
The Encore Group, Inc.

Signatures

Signature(s) of Debtor(s) (Individual/Joint)

I declare under penalty of perjury that the information provided in this petition is true and correct.
[If petitioner is an individual whose debts are primarily consumer debts and has chosen to file under chapter 7] I am aware that I may proceed under chapter 7, 11, 12, or 13 of title 11, United States Code, understand the relief available under each such chapter, and choose to proceed under chapter 7.
[If no attorney represents me and no bankruptcy petition preparer signs the petition] I have obtained and read the notice required by 11 U.S.C. §342(b).

I request relief in accordance with the chapter of title 11, United States Code, specified in this petition.

X _____
Signature of Debtor

X _____
Signature of Joint Debtor

Telephone Number (If not represented by attorney)

Date

Signature of Attorney*

X /s/ Karen A. Giannelli
Signature of Attorney for Debtor(s)

Karen A. Giannelli KG 4086
Printed Name of Attorney for Debtor(s)

Gibbons P.C.
Firm Name
One Gateway Center
Newark, NJ 07102-5310

Address

Email: kgiannelli@gibbonslaw.com
973-596-4500 Fax: 973-596-0545

Telephone Number

April 21, 2011
Date

*In a case in which § 707(b)(4)(D) applies, this signature also constitutes a certification that the attorney has no knowledge after an inquiry that the information in the schedules is incorrect.

Signature of Debtor (Corporation/Partnership)

I declare under penalty of perjury that the information provided in this petition is true and correct, and that I have been authorized to file this petition on behalf of the debtor.

The debtor requests relief in accordance with the chapter of title 11, United States Code, specified in this petition.

X /s/ Richard D. Snow
Signature of Authorized Individual

Richard D. Snow
Printed Name of Authorized Individual

President & Chief Executive Officer
Title of Authorized Individual

April 21, 2011
Date

Signature of a Foreign Representative

I declare under penalty of perjury that the information provided in this petition is true and correct, that I am the foreign representative of a debtor in a foreign proceeding, and that I am authorized to file this petition.

(Check only one box.)

☐ I request relief in accordance with chapter 15 of title 11, United States Code. Certified copies of the documents required by 11 U.S.C. §1515 are attached.

☐ Pursuant to 11 U.S.C. §1511, I request relief in accordance with the chapter of title 11 specified in this petition. A certified copy of the order granting recognition of the foreign main proceeding is attached.

X _____
Signature of Foreign Representative

Printed Name of Foreign Representative

Date

Signature of Non-Attorney Bankruptcy Petition Preparer

I declare under penalty of perjury that: (1) I am a bankruptcy petition preparer as defined in 11 U.S.C. § 110; (2) I prepared this document for compensation and have provided the debtor with a copy of this document and the notices and information required under 11 U.S.C. §§ 110(b), 110(h), and 342(b); and, (3) if rules or guidelines have been promulgated pursuant to 11 U.S.C. § 110(h) setting a maximum fee for services chargeable by bankruptcy petition preparers, I have given the debtor notice of the maximum amount before preparing any document for filing for a debtor or accepting any fee from the debtor, as required in that section. Official Form 19 is attached.

Printed Name and title, if any, of Bankruptcy Petition Preparer

Social-Security number (If the bankruptcy petition preparer is not an individual, state the Social Security number of the officer, principal, responsible person or partner of the bankruptcy petition preparer.)(Required by 11 U.S.C. § 110.)

Address

X _____

Date

Signature of Bankruptcy Petition Preparer or officer, principal, responsible person, or partner whose Social Security number is provided above.

Names and Social-Security numbers of all other individuals who prepared or assisted in preparing this document unless the bankruptcy petition preparer is not an individual:

If more than one person prepared this document, attach additional sheets conforming to the appropriate official form for each person.

A bankruptcy petition preparer's failure to comply with the provisions of title 11 and the Federal Rules of Bankruptcy Procedure may result in fines or imprisonment or both 11 U.S.C. §110; 18 U.S.C. §156.

**United States Bankruptcy Court
District of New Jersey**

In re The Encore Group, Inc.

Debtor(s)

Case No. _____

Chapter

7

VERIFICATION OF CREDITOR MATRIX

I, the President & Chief Executive Officer of the corporation named as the debtor in this case, hereby verify that the attached list of creditors is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

Date: April 21, 2011

/s/ Richard D. Snow

Richard D. Snow/President & Chief Executive Officer
Signer/Title

Eldrige Hanes
2750 Spicewood Drive
Winston Salem, NC 27106

Russ Berrie and Company, Inc.
dba Kid Brands, Inc.
One Meadowlands Plaza, 8th Floor
East Rutherford, NJ 07073

Wells Fargo Bank, National Association
300 Commercial St.
Boston, MA 02109

**United States Bankruptcy Court
District of New Jersey**

In re The Encore Group, Inc.

Debtor(s)

Case No.
Chapter

7

CORPORATE OWNERSHIP STATEMENT (RULE 7007.1)

Pursuant to Federal Rule of Bankruptcy Procedure 7007.1 and to enable the Judges to evaluate possible disqualification or recusal, the undersigned counsel for The Encore Group, Inc. in the above captioned action, certifies that the following is a (are) corporation(s), other than the debtor or a governmental unit, that directly or indirectly own(s) 10% or more of any class of the corporation's(s') equity interests, or states that there are no entities to report under FRBP 7007.1:

The Russ Companies, Inc.
1800 Valley Road
Wayne, NJ 07470

☐ None [*Check if applicable*]

April 21, 2011

Date

/s/ Karen A. Giannelli

Karen A. Giannelli

Signature of Attorney or Litigant

Counsel for The Encore Group, Inc.

Gibbons P.C.

One Gateway Center

Newark, NJ 07102-5310

973-596-4500 Fax:973-596-0545

kgiannelli@gibbonslaw.com

EXHIBIT TO THE SECRETARY'S CERTIFICATE

WHEREAS, the Corporation's parent, The Russ Companies, Inc., a Delaware corporation (the "Parent"), will be filing a voluntary petition seeking relief under the provisions of Chapter 7, Title 11 of the United States Code, 11 U.S.C. §§101-1330 (the "Bankruptcy Code");

WHEREAS, the Board of Directors of the Parent has also recommended, authorized and approved of a corresponding and concurrent Chapter 7 bankruptcy filing by its U.S. subsidiaries, including the Corporation; and

WHEREAS, in the judgment of the Board of Directors, after full analysis, discussion and review, it is desirable and in the best interests of the Corporation, its creditors, employees and other interested parties, that a voluntary petition seeking relief under the provisions of Chapter 7 of the Bankruptcy Code also be filed by the Corporation (the "Bankruptcy Filing").

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT

RESOLVED, that the Bankruptcy Filing be, and hereby is, authorized and approved in all respects;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the officers ("Authorized Persons") of the Corporation be, and they hereby are, authorized, empowered and directed, in the name, and on behalf of the Corporation to execute and verify all petitions, schedules, lists and other papers or documents, and to take any and all action which they deem necessary or proper to obtain such relief and to cause the same to be filed in the United States Bankruptcy Court for the District of New Jersey at such time or in such other jurisdiction as such Authorized Person executing same shall determine;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the officers of the Corporation be, and they hereby are, authorized and empowered for, in the name of, and on behalf of the Corporation to take or cause to be taken any and all such other and further action, and to execute, acknowledge, deliver and file any and all such instruments as each, in his/her discretion, may deem necessary or advisable in order to carry out the purpose and intent of the foregoing resolutions;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that all actions taken and transactions entered into by the Corporation and any of its authorized officers and duly authorized agents on its behalf concerning any matter referred to in the foregoing resolutions, or any matter substantially related thereto, are hereby ratified, confirmed and approved in all respects;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this Consent may be executed in one or more counterparts, each of which shall be deemed an original, but all of which together shall constitute one and the same instrument; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a copy of this Consent be filed in the minute books of the Corporation with the proceedings of its Board of Directors.

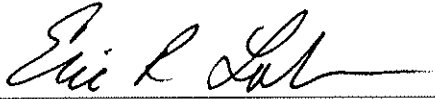
THE ENCORE GROUP, INC.

CERTIFICATE OF THE SECRETARY

I, Eric R. Lohwasser, being the duly elected and acting Secretary of The Encore Group, Inc. (the "Corporation"), hereby certifies that the attached resolutions are a true, correct and complete copy of the resolutions of the Board of Directors of the Corporation duly adopted via Unanimous Written Consent to Action of the Board of Directors effective April 20, 2011, and that said resolutions have not been amended or rescinded and are now in full force and effect.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this 21st day of April, 2011.

THE ENCORE GROUP, INC.

By: 
Name: Eric R. Lohwasser
Title: Secretary